

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 8

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Legislative Council to direct the appropriate statutory committee to review the data regarding cervical cancer and human papillomavirus and evaluate current methods of public education and access to regular cervical cancer screening, and options for increasing screening accuracy.

LAWSON C

January 13, 2004 , read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Provider Services.



SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Legislative Council to direct the appropriate statutory committee to review the data regarding cervical cancer and human papillomavirus and evaluate current methods of public education and access to regular cervical cancer screening, and options for increasing screening accuracy.

Whereas, cervical cancer is the second most common cancer in women worldwide after breast cancer;

Whereas, according to United States cervical cancer statistics, the disease is the third most common gynecological cancer among American women. With approximately 12,200 new cases diagnosed annually, 4,100 of these cases result in fatalities;

Whereas, cervical cancer is highly preventable, with regular and accurate screening;

Whereas, widespread screening programs have helped reduce death rates from cervical cancer, but women are still dying;

Whereas, cervical cancer cases in the United States



are generally attributed to lack of education and access to regular cervical cancer screening, and lack of screening accuracy;

Whereas, experience shows that increasing cervical cancer awareness among women, especially underserved women, significantly reduces the probability of mortality;

Whereas, new screening technologies, including FDA-approved testing for human papillomavirus, which is the cause of virtually all cervical cancers, offer new opportunities to finally eliminate this potentially deadly disease through early identification of women at increased risk;

Whereas, leading medical organizations, including the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, American Cancer Society and Association of Reproductive Health Professionals have recently updated their screening guidelines to include FDA-approved testing for human papillomavirus; and

Whereas, women are entitled to proper cervical cancer information, so that they can be empowered to make informed health care decisions, and to access to routine screening, including the most accurate methods available: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:

1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly
2 recognizes the severity of the issue of cervical health and calls upon
3 the Legislative Council to direct the appropriate committee to
4 review data regarding cervical cancer and human papillomavirus and
5 evaluate current methods used to provide women with information
6 regarding cervical cancer, access to regular screening, and options



1 for increasing screening accuracy.

2 SECTION 2. The Indiana General Assembly recognizes
3 that through education and early detection, women can lower their
4 likelihood for developing cervical cancer or successfully treat
5 cervical cancer after it develops.

6 SECTION 3. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby
7 directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Legislative
8 Council.

